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 SHORT COMMUNICATION

**Changing breeding habits of *Mythimna albipuncta* (D. & S.).**—In past years including 1989 I have noted that when breeding this species the adults have emerged during December and early January from eggs laid during October from moths taken at mercury vapour light at Freshwater, Isle of Wight. The larvae, which were kept indoors and subject to central heating, fed up quickly on soft grasses pupating in late November and early December.

However during 1990 there was a change of habit in the larvae, experienced by Mr J. L. Fenn and myself from stock obtained during October 1990 from Freshwater. Some of the larvae fed up quickly producing moths in December, the earliest being on 19.xii.90. However some of the larvae partially hibernated during the winter months and produced adults then and on into the spring with the last emerging on 22.iv.91.

I suspect that this recent change of habit is the result of the 1989 generation being one which had over-wintered successfully. The winter of 1989/90 was exceptionally mild and this species may have survived and become temporarily established along the South Coast.

I wonder whether members of the Society to whom I gave ova at the 1990 BENHS Annual Exhibition experienced a similar change in breeding habits in this moth. S. A. Knill-Jones, Roundstone, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

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 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

***Euriphene* specimen identified.**—The specimen from Cameroon depicted in Figure 14 of Plate I of the Journal in Volume 4, Part 1, April 1991 is a female of *Euriphene canui legeriana* Hecq., and is identical to the hitherto unique type in my collection. This came from near Abak in eastern Nigeria west of the Cross River. The male of the subspecies has not yet been described. The nominate subspecies is, I believe, from the island of Fernando Po (currently called Bioko). This species is,